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NORTHROP GRUMMAN

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October 25, 2002

Via Telecopy

Thomas J. Krueger
Associate Regional Counsel
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 5
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604-3590

Re: **Ellsworth Industrial Park Site, Downers Grove, IL**

Dear Mr. Krueger:

Litton Systems, Inc., for its former Liberty Copper and Wire operation (Litton), received EPA's Special Notice Letter concerning the Ellsworth Industrial Park Site in Downers Grove, DuPage County, IL (Site). In its Special Notice Letter, EPA requests that Litton notify EPA as to its willingness to participate in negotiations to perform or finance the activities described in the Special Notice Letter.

This response is made without any acknowledgement that Litton is a "responsible party" under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), without any admission of liability or responsibility under CERCLA or any other statute, and without waiver of any applicable defenses.

While its investigation of this matter continues, Litton is willing to participate in negotiations with EPA and the other potentially responsible parties concerning the performance or financing of the activities described in EPA's Special Notice Letter.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to call me at 703-875-8422.

Sincerely,

Jill M. Palmer
Senior Counsel – Environmental Law

